

Homegrown Minneapolis Food Council Minutes
Wednesday, November 14, 2012
McNeal 126, located at 1985 Buford Ave., St. Paul, MN 55108
3:00 – 6:00 pm

Attendance: Beth Dooley, Bob Lind, Deborah Ramos, Eric Larsen, Gayle Prest, Julie Ristau, Kristine Igo, Kurt Schreck, Patty Bowler, Rebecca Reed, Rhys Williams, Russ Henry, Tim Jenkins

Others in Attendance: Jane Shey (Homegrown Minneapolis Consultant), Vish Vasani (Prevention Specialist), John Parker (Humphrey School of Public Affairs student)

Absent:

Aaron Reser, Alison Rotel, Cam Gordon, Erica Prosser, Mustafa Sundiata, Neil Oxendale, Sara Nelson-Pallmeyer, Tracy Singleton

Introduction of Guests and Approval of the Minutes:

Beth Dooley asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes. Bob Lind moved to approve the October Food Council Meeting minutes and the motion was seconded by Julie Ristau and all were in favor. Minor corrections were made prior to the approval, specifically in removing Deborah Ramos's name from the list of attendees at the October meeting and a year change for a 2013 public meeting.

Homegrown Coordinator Updates:

- Jane Shey and Vish Vasani reviewed the December 5th Homegrown Minneapolis Food Council Open House event agenda. The location was confirmed to be the East Phillips Park and Cultural Community Center. The overview of the agenda consisted of: going through the registration, reviewing organizations to invite for the 'resource fair,' confirming that dinner will be served by Sister's Camelot, walking through the program portion of the event, and discussing the questions for the activity. Several members of the community were recommended as keynote speakers including: Jim Bovino, Susie Goldstein and Eric Larsen. It was decided that Jim Bovino and Eric Larson could 'tag' team for the keynote with a 15 minute time limit. Jane Shey discussed recognizing Cam Gordon and Robin Garwood as the 2012 Homegrown Hero and then in the future annually recognize Homegrown Heroes in the community. This could include an annual nominating process, from members of the community. Russ Henry asked if the group would have to vote on Cam Gordon, and Jane Shey stated that they don't have to, but she does need confirmation from everyone that they are comfortable with the decision and this can be done by email.
- Jane Shey explained that the Minneapolis Parks and Recreation Board is soliciting community input on an Urban Agriculture Plan with community meetings and a comment period. There is no formal proposal from the Park Board but the Food Council could weigh in with suggestions based on the Homegrown Minneapolis experience. She requested that 2-3 people get together, if possible, and put together ideas for this comment period. It needs to

be submitted by mid-December. This group can give Jane Shey the list of ideas and she will write it in a letter format. Russ Henry, Eric Larsen and Rebecca Reed offered to assist with drafting the letter. Julie Ristau offered to send the group information and recommendations from Seattle and the Dakota Counties. Comments will be circulated to everyone upon completion.

Member Updates:

1. Kurt Schreck informed the Council that there is a local effort to put together an investment group and use proximity to places to create a vertical farm, probably in combination with office space(s) as well. This was presented to the Minnesota 2020 Steering Committee and they were interested in learning more. Kurt Schreck envisioned an urban farm along the University corridor.
2. Rebecca Reed talked about Leap for Development. Her colleagues presented to the Elliot Park Association and the group believes that Leap for Neighborhood Development is a good avenue to ensure that edibles are planted. Next week they will be presenting to the Downtown Minneapolis Neighborhood Association.
3. Patty Bowler discussed the efforts of the Health and Family Service Department and Homegrown Minneapolis to influence the planning for the Vikings Stadium in terms of food, physical activity, smoke free nature, along with a range of other public health impacts. They worked with CPED's Operation team and put together 'principles' with corresponding public health rationale to share with the group a couple weeks ago with a positive response.
4. Jane Shey discussed the MPCA Compost Regulations on behalf of Gayle Prest. She stated that Gayle Prest, Russ Henry, Eric Larsen, and others reviewed the regulations and submitted comments.

The meeting adjourned at 4:20pm.